



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
Cleon B. Feight, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

August 27, 1982

Mr. Roy Benson
United States Steel Corporation
P.O. Box 859
Cedar City, UT 84720

RE: Desert Mound Mine
ACT/021/003
Iron County, Utah

Dear Mr. Benson;

Thank you for supplying the most recent (May 28, 1982) Notice of Suspension for operations at the Desert Mound Mine. I would also like to extend my thanks for accompanying me on a tour of the mine site August 18, 1982.

Although it may be difficult to get a complete idea of true revegetation success from my visit (during August), it seems that there may possibly be some difficulty in establishing good acceptable growth on the test plot areas. As I suggested to you on site, it may be to the advantage of USSC to obtain a soil/waste-rock analysis of the material representative of the area to be eventually revegetated. Once this analysis has been submitted to the Division, members of the staff will work with USSC to develop a program of possible additives or soil amendments or alternative methods for revegetation which would enable USSC to realize ultimate savings in the revegetation program. This step could be a worthwhile investment for the company. It would be helpful if this were taken this summer so that results could be utilized for the optimum planting time this fall. After observing results at the revegetated areas belonging to Utah International, I suggest that better results are obtainable.

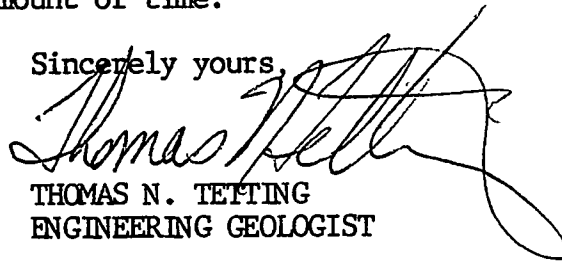
I also mentioned while recently on site, that an area known as the Blackhawk Fines should be incorporated into the present Mining and Reclamation Plan. Because of its current use it is subject to the jurisdiction of the Division and ought to officially be the responsibility of USSC. Therefore, it is necessary for certain information to be presented, including a map of the affected area. I am hoping that this will not affect the amount of the current bond. It may be possible for the Division to inspect the area and provide information during this fall's revegetation attempts as well as review the newly accumulated information sometime in October.

Mr. Roy Benson
ACT/021/003
August 27, 1982
Page Two

Enclosed you will find a copy of MR-3, a report form which will provide the Division with an annual update of activities. There is no record of this having been filed for 1981 operations. If you have done so already could I request a copy? If not, please take the time and complete and return this form. I have also taken the liberty and included one for reporting the 1982 activities next January.

Please call on me with any questions so that I may provide the best possible assistance in the shortest amount of time.

Sincerely yours,



THOMAS N. TETTING
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

TNT/tck
enclosures

cc: Laurence Ashdown, USSC